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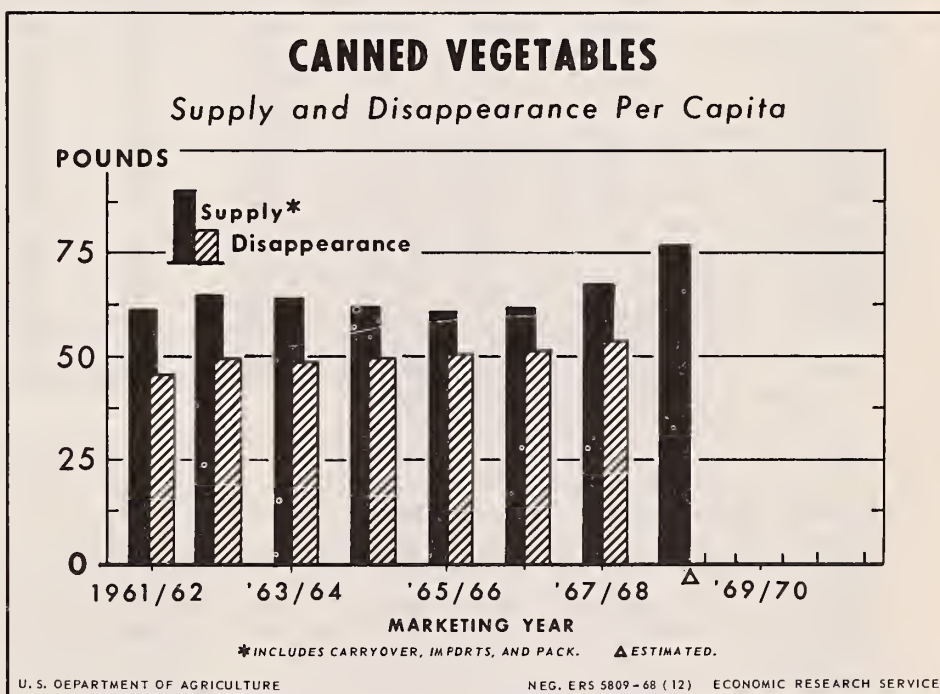
VEGETABLE SITUATION



TVS-171

FEBRUARY 1969

Canned vegetable supplies in 1968/69 are up materially to a new record. Imports are expected to be smaller than last season, but carryover stocks and packs were much larger. Disappearance likely will total slightly above last season. Nevertheless, remaining supplies in mid-1969 will be up sharply.



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Table 1.--Vegetables and melons for fresh market: Commercial acreage, yield per acre, and production of principal crops, selected seasons, annual 1967, 1968, and indicated 1969

Crop and seasonal group	Harvested acreage			Yield per acre			Production		
	1967	1968	Indi- cated 1969	1967	1968	Indi- cated 1969	1967	1968	Indi- cated 1969
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	Cwt.	Cwt.	Cwt.	1,000 cwt.	1,000 cwt.	1,000 cwt.
VEGETABLES									
WINTER									
Artichokes 1/	9.6	9.6	10.1	76	60	65	730	576	656
Beans, snap	17.0	14.9	15.5	36	33	35	612	492	542
Beets	1.8	.9	1.5	70	105	90	126	94	135
Broccoli 1/	3.6	2.0	3.0	28	44	43	98	85	126
Cabbage 1/	41.1	37.6	45.9	173	202	170	7,124	7,611	7,823
Carrots 1/	38.1	26.2	37.2	146	201	171	5,544	5,263	6,358
Cauliflower 1/	2.0	1.4	2.0	43	52	59	89	76	118
Celery 1/	12.1	10.8	11.6	471	475	463	5,698	5,130	5,367
Corn, sweet	11.1	9.0	10.7	70	70	60	777	630	642
Eggplant	.6	.5	.4	215	185	185	129	92	83
Escarole	7.0	5.9	7.3	110	135	105	770	796	766
Kale 1/	1.1	1.0	1.0	65	70	65	72	70	65
Lettuce	75.8	70.2	81.1	172	174	169	13,005	12,240	13,668
Peppers, green 1/	7.1	6.9	6.7	105	120	100	746	828	670
Shallots	.6	.6	.6	35	37	35	21	22	23
Spinach	7.6	5.9	7.5	49	58	52	372	343	390
Tomatoes	14.9	13.0	15.6	190	180	180	2,831	2,340	2,808
Total	251.1	216.4	257.8	154	170	156	38,744	36,688	40,240
SPRING									
Asparagus 1/ 2/	129.1	125.4	121.4	24	26	--	3,041	3,235	--
Cabbage 1/ 2/	11.8	10.6	10.8	152	134	--	1,806	1,420	--
Onions 1/	23.0	21.5	23.0	165	115	--	3,795	2,472	--
Early	8.9	9.3	9.9	300	295	--	2,667	2,742	--
Late 2/	60.7	61.6	60.1	149	136	--	9,061	8,372	--
Watermelons									
Late 2/									
Total Spring to date	233.5	228.4	225.2	87	80	--	20,370	18,241	--
Winter and Spring to date	484.6	444.8	483.0	122	123	--	59,114	54,929	--

1/ Includes processing.

2/ 1969 prospective acreage.

Vegetables - Fresh Market, SRS, USDA, issued monthly.

THE VEGETABLE SITUATION

Approved by the Outlook and Situation Board, January 29, 1969

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SUMMARY *

Fresh vegetable supplies during the next few months likely will be the largest in several years. Early January reports showed that total winter output probably would be up about a tenth from the low level in 1968, and moderately larger than in 1967. Indicated production of all major vegetables is larger than last year, with abundant supplies in prospect for cabbage, carrots, celery, lettuce, and tomatoes. Supplies of stored onions also are materially above a year ago, and a big new spring crop appears likely.

Winter-crop harvesting in Florida, south Texas, and California is seasonally active. Barring extensive crop damage by bad weather, prices for fresh vegetables should average sharply below the record prices of last winter.

Canned and frozen vegetable supplies are record large. Because of increased carryover stocks and large 1968 packs, supplies of canned vegetables for the 1968/69 marketing season were about 15 percent above the previous season. Frozen vegetable output last year was up only a little, but stocks were larger, so total supplies were up substantially. Although abundant supplies and lower prices have stimulated disappearance, remaining stocks are

heavy. Frozen vegetable holdings January 1 were 9 percent larger than a year earlier, and estimated canned stocks were up about a fourth. Markets for most processed items likely will be under pressure through the winter and spring. Stocks carried over into the 1969 packing season are expected to be exceptionally large.

Potato supplies are down moderately from the record supplies of last winter. Storage stocks on January 1, at 128.8 million hundredweight, were 8 percent below a year earlier; they were down slightly in the Midwest, 7 percent in the East, and 11 percent in the West. Smaller supplies and increased processing activity have boosted prices sharply above year-earlier levels in the West. Although prices in the Midwest and East are also higher than a year ago, markets in these areas may be under some pressure in late winter due to relatively large supplies. Early reports indicate a reduced acreage for early spring harvest from last year, but late spring intended plantings are up 5 percent.

Sweetpotato supplies are about the same as the light supplies of last winter. Prices are expected to increase seasonally during the next 4 to 5 months, and average close to the record-high prices of last season.

*The summary of this report was released on January 29, 1969.

Dry edible bean supplies are larger than the tight supplies of a year ago, but still below average. Supplies of the leading classes of white beans (small white, great northern, and pea beans) appear to be under normal trade needs, and prices are expected to remain above average. Supplies of pintos, large and baby limas, and pink beans are relatively

large, resulting in downward price pressures.

Dry pea supplies totaled a little larger this season than last. But export movement is up, so remaining stocks are below those of a year ago. With a continued strong export demand, prices for 1968-crop dry peas likely will average relatively high.

VEGETABLES FOR FRESH MARKET

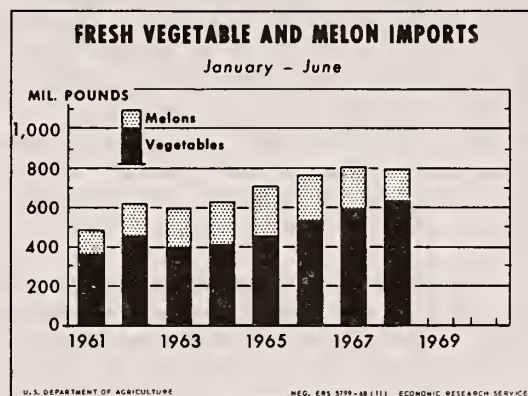
1969 Winter Supplies Relatively Large

Supplies of fresh vegetables during February-March this year probably will be considerably larger than a year earlier. Partly because of high prices last year, and with weather more favorable for field work, growers have many more acres for winter harvest. Even though yields may average relatively low, total winter output is expected to be a tenth larger than in 1968, and moderately above 1967. Supplies of carrots and tomatoes likely will be up sharply from last year's low level, and a substantial increase is in prospect for lettuce. There also probably will be more beets, cabbage, celery, broccoli, and cauliflower this year. Because of increased output last year, storage supplies of onions are the largest in several years. Production of only a few relatively minor winter vegetables (such as eggplant, kale, and green peppers) is expected to be smaller than a year ago.

Winter-crop harvesting in Florida, south Texas, and California has increased steadily in recent weeks, and is expected to be seasonally active through the winter. Barring major weather problems, prices for fresh winter vegetables are expected to average sharply below the record prices that prevailed last winter.

Heavy January rainfall in California apparently caused minor damage to winter crops. However, some acreage for spring harvest was lost and must be replanted. As a result, early spring marketings may be reduced.

During the next several months, supplies of domestically produced vegetables will be supplemented by imports. Mexico accounts for most of the tender vegetable and melon imports, though small quantities of both are furnished by Caribbean countries and the Bahamas. Canada provides hardy vegetables (mainly carrots and turnips) and, in some years, Chile and Mexico supply substantial quantities of dry onions.



Imports during January-June 1968 totaled about the same as a year earlier. Strong U.S. markets attracted many more carrots and onions, but imports of tender vegetables were down. This was due to smaller production in Mexico where rainfall was excessive. Mexico's weather has been favorable so far this season and there will be large supplies of such items as tomatoes, cucumbers, peppers, and melons available for sale. Our imports probably will increase even though this trade will be influenced to some extent by U.S. output

and prices, and by restrictions imposed by the U.S. industry on marketings of tomatoes. Because of increased U.S. supplies and lower prices, imports of carrots and onions likely will be down from last year's high levels.

Prospects for Major Vegetables

Cabbage--Supplies are expected to total about the same this winter as last. However, the short-term pattern of marketings may differ greatly. Early winter volume was much below a year earlier because of reduced storage holdings in the North, and slow growth of crops in the South. With harvest of new winter cabbage crops now active, supplies during the next few months probably will be moderately larger than a year earlier. Prospective winter output, at 7.8 million hundredweight, is up 3 percent from 1968 and substantially above the 1963-67 average. A much larger tonnage in Texas accounts for the increase over last year. Growers there planted many more acres, and in early January, expected their output would be up about two-thirds over last year's short crop. Florida's acreage also is above a year earlier, but production may be off 15 percent due to poor yields early in the season. Production in Arizona and California probably will be much smaller this winter. Growers planted fewer acres, and yields may be relatively low.

Prices for cabbage were high in early winter, but moved down as harvest of winter crops gained momentum. In late January, prices f.o.b. south Texas shipping points were running a little over \$2 for 1 3/4 bushel crates, compared with \$2.64 a year earlier. Since supplies during the remaining weeks of winter should be large, prices probably will continue to average below year-earlier levels.

More Carrots--Prospective winter carrot output--at 6.4 million hundredweight--is much above last winter's short crop, and the largest in several years. Growers in Texas have many more acres to harvest than in 1968 when floods curtailed planting. Although yields may not

match those of last year, production is expected to be up more than 50 percent. In California, acreage is down from the high level of 1968, and estimated output is off a tenth. Harvest is active in both States; marketing will continue seasonally heavy into early spring.

With abundant supplies in prospect in winter-crop areas, carrot prices have been declining. By late January, f.o.b. prices at south Texas shipping points were averaging about \$2.55 per container of 48 1-lb. film bags, much below the extreme highs of a year earlier and slightly below average for that time of year. Since potential supplies are relatively large, prices the next few months likely will average the same or below current levels.

More Celery--Winter celery production likely will be moderately larger than last year because of increased output in California. Growers there have more acreage than in 1968 and, though yields on early fields were low, prospective tonnage is up 13 percent. Florida growers also have more acres; but numerous frosts curtailed early harvests, and indicated production is slightly smaller than last year.

Celery markets--weak as winter-crop harvests began--strengthened appreciably as cold weather restricted volume during December. By mid-January, however, harvests were active and markets were under pressure. During the week ended January 25, prices for celery, f.o.b. southern Florida shipping points, averaged \$2.48 per 16-inch crate, compared with \$3.00 a year earlier.

Like last year, marketing of Florida celery will be regulated under a Federal marketing order which enables the industry to control the State's volume of marketings. However, with total supplies expected to be relatively large during the next few months, celery prices likely will remain below year-earlier levels.

Record Lettuce Output--Production of lettuce this winter is estimated at a record 13.7 million hundredweight, up 12 percent over both last winter and average.

Florida growers expect their crop will be the same as in 1968. But due to more acreage, growers in all other States expect larger output. Prospective tonnage is up 9 percent in California where over two-thirds of total winter supplies originate. Arizona expects its output will be 15 percent larger, while production in Texas may be up sharply from last winter's low level.

Early winter harvests in the important desert areas of the Southwest were hampered by low temperatures, resulting in strong markets through December. However, supplies have increased rapidly in recent weeks and have been large relative to market demand. Prices f.o.b. southern California points during the week ended January 25 averaged \$1.18 per carton of 24 heads, compared with a high \$3.55 the same week a year earlier. With prospects for ample to heavy supplies of lettuce into late winter, continued downward pressure on prices seems likely.

Many More Tomatoes--Fresh tomato supplies available this winter are expected to be considerably larger than last winter's small volume. Domestic output likely will be up sharply due to increased plantings in Florida. Though yields may average about the same as a year earlier, the State's estimated production as of early January was a fifth larger than in 1968.

Relatively large supplies are also available in Mexico for export to the United States. Last winter, Mexico's production and exports were curtailed by poor growing conditions. This year, weather has been favorable, resulting in larger output. But the quantity exported will be affected to some extent by prices and other marketing factors prevailing in the United States.

Florida's tomatoes this year will be marketed under a Federal marketing order which permits the industry to control grade and size of the State's interstate shipments. Regulations on Florida tomatoes also apply to imports. As prices declined sharply in early January, regulations were instituted to prevent the

shipment of smaller tomatoes. By mid-month, the market was about stable at average prices materially below the high prices of a year earlier. Although regulations may continue to affect marketings this winter and spring, prices likely will average below last year's because of the larger supply.

More Onions--Supplies of onions are the largest in several years. The 1968 late-summer crop, part of which was stored for later marketing, was up 8 percent from a year earlier to a near record high. Although shrinkage so far has exceeded last year's rate, sales were down. Supplies remaining on January 1 at 5.4 million hundredweight, were 12 percent above those of a year earlier. Stocks were smaller in the East, but up 4 percent in the Midwest and sharply in the West.

Stocks are relatively large only in the West, yet all markets are under pressure. Prices have been slipping for several months, and in late January were much below last winter's high levels. Prices f.o.b. western New York shipping points averaged \$1.53 per 50-lb. sack of medium-size yellow globe onions during the week ended January 25 compared with \$2.82 the same week a year earlier.

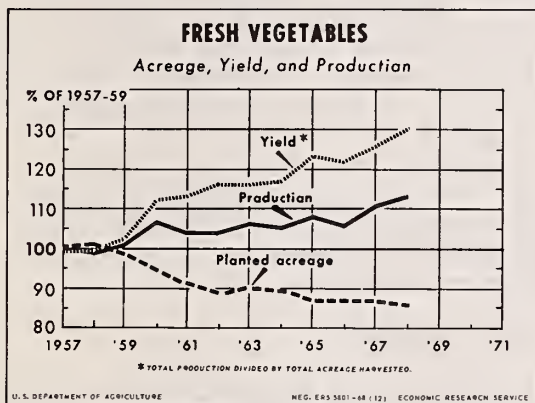
Markets are expected to stay weak into spring. Besides heavier storage supplies, relatively large new-crop output appears likely. Onion acreage in the Lower Rio Grande Valley is up sharply from last year. Despite reduced plantings in other Texas areas, the State's total acreage for early spring harvest is 7 percent above that in 1968. With average yields, output may be much larger than a year ago when weather was unfavorable. This year's crop has made good progress. Light harvest is underway, with relatively large supplies expected by late March--well ahead of a year earlier.

Growers of onions for late spring harvest have reported intentions to increase acreage 6 percent over 1968. All of the prospective rise is in California where three-fifths of the seasonal output usually originates. Acreage may be the same as last year in Arizona, and smaller

in Texas. With normal yields, production on the intended acreage would be considerably larger than both 1968 and average.

1968 Highlights

Production--Total 1968 production of the leading vegetables and melons for fresh sale amounted to 11.4 million tons, 1 percent larger than in 1967. Higher average yields were responsible for the increase, since acreage continued to trend down. Among individual vegetables, new production highs were reached for lettuce, broccoli, onions, and peppers. There was slightly less cabbage. Sweet corn output was down materially, and total supplies of fresh tomatoes were the smallest since 1960. Growers marketed slightly fewer watermelons than in 1967, but cantaloup output was larger.

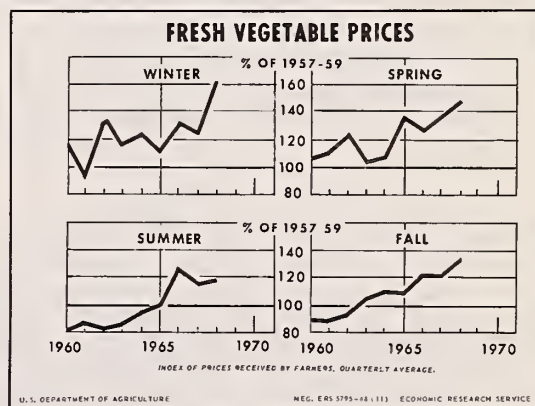


On a seasonal basis, production varied more than usual. Supplies were relatively small during the first half of 1968 as bad weather curtailed output in south Texas and Florida. Production was down 5 percent during the winter and 3 percent during the spring. The supply shortage eased as harvesting began in summer-crop areas. Acreage in the Northeast and Midwest generally was the same or smaller than a year earlier. But growers in the West, particularly in California, expanded plantings of many vegetables. As a result, U.S. acreage for summer harvest was 4 percent larger

than in 1967, and the season's production was up 7 percent to a new record.

Fall-crop production totaled about the same as in 1967. Partly in response to depressed prices the year before, fall cabbage tonnage was down slightly and output of tomatoes was off 14 percent. But there were offsetting increases in supplies of lettuce, celery, carrots, and peppers in the West.

Prices--For the year, prices for fresh vegetables averaged materially above those in 1967. Although much of the increase was due to record prices during January-May, prices also averaged at record levels near year-end.

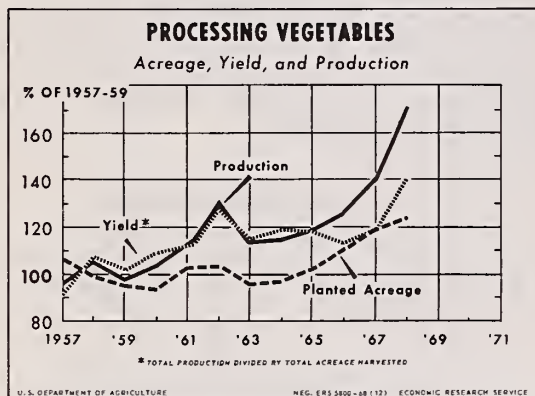


Value of 1968 fresh vegetables and melons totaled \$1.2 billion, up 4 percent from a year earlier. In the top two States, value was up \$55 million in California because of increased production, and up \$28 million in Florida because of higher prices. Despite generally higher prices, returns to growers in Texas were down \$5 million due to sharply curtailed output in the Lower Valley. Arizona growers harvested a 4 percent smaller total volume, and value was off \$7 million because of lower prices for spring melons and lettuce. Reduced returns for onions, celery, and lettuce due to stronger competition with large western supplies contributed to a \$4.5 million decline in New York.

VEGETABLES FOR COMMERCIAL PROCESSING

Processing Output Up Sharply in 1968

Because of much more acreage for a few vegetables and relatively high yields for nearly all, processing vegetable production was record large last year. Production for canning and freezing totaled 12.1 million tons, 21 percent over the previous high in 1967.



Sharp increases were reported for tomatoes, sweet corn, and beets. Cannery in the East processed fewer tomatoes than a year earlier, but production was up moderately in the Midwest, and sharply in the West. Total processing tomato output was up 34 percent to a new high with California accounting for 70 percent of the total. Production in that State was more than half again larger than a year earlier as cannery there contracted over a fifth more acres; also, an unusually long season contributed to high yields.

With both acreage and yield at record levels, sweet corn tonnage was 18 percent larger than in 1967. Big increases in output for both canning and freezing occurred in all areas except the East. Acreage of beets for processing was a tenth larger than a year earlier; yields were the highest ever, and production was up 30 percent. Total asparagus processed was up 4 percent, reflecting gains in both canning and freezing output.

Production of all other processing vegetables was smaller than a year earlier. Output of green peas, lima beans, and spinach was down slightly, with smaller canning use offsetting gains in freezing. Snap bean production for canning was about the same as a year earlier, but output for freezing was off substantially. Due to less acreage and lower yields, production of kraut cabbage was down 16 percent, and output of pickling cucumbers was down 8 percent.

Prices paid by freezers averaged a little lower than a year earlier, but those paid by canners generally were higher. Value of processing vegetables reached a record of nearly \$600 million, materially above a year earlier. Crop value increased most in the West, mainly reflecting the exceptionally large tomato output in California and more sweet corn at higher prices in the Northwest. Increased returns for sweet corn, tomatoes, and beets resulted in higher gross crop values in a few Midwestern States--Wisconsin, Minnesota, and Ohio. All other areas indicated their cash receipts for 1968-crop processing vegetables were about the same or lower than a year earlier.

Canned Vegetables

Pack Was a Record--Mainly because of increased output of tomato products, sweet corn, beets, and asparagus, the total 1968 pack of canned vegetables was up about a tenth over the year before, and was record large. Apparently, the tomato juice pack was smaller than in 1967. But packs of other tomato products were much larger--all up a fourth or more. Sweet corn output was a fifth above a year earlier, the beet pack was up a tenth, and the pack of canned asparagus increased 4 percent. Packs of other leading vegetables were smaller than in 1967. Though far above average, the snap bean pack was a shade under 1967's record. Packs of lima beans and pumpkin also were a little smaller. The canned pea pack was off 4 percent from 1967's large pack, while output of pickles and kraut was down materially.

Carryover stocks in mid-1969 were much larger than a year earlier. Thus, total canned supplies for the 1968/69 marketing season were up materially--about 15 percent above those of the previous season, and a new record. Every vegetable was in ample to heavy supply.

Current Supplies Much Above a Year Ago--The market for canned vegetables was routine during the fall of 1968, with indications that disappearance of most items was the same to slightly above the relatively high levels of a year earlier. Even so, total supplies now available for marketing into mid-1969 are sharply above a year ago--perhaps as much as 25 percent. Stocks of kraut and carrots are substantially under last year's near record supplies, and there is considerably less canned pumpkin. But stocks of all other vegetables are larger, with increases ranging from slight for peas and asparagus, to about a tenth for sweet corn, and a third or more for most processed tomato items.

Markets for nearly all canned vegetables are weak. According to trade reports, canners' list prices are materially lower than a year earlier and allowances from lists are common. With supplies abundant and prices down, canned vegetables in coming months are likely to move at a relatively high rate. Nevertheless, carryovers into the 1969 packing season will be record large.

Government Purchases--Partly because of large supplies available, the USDA in December purchased tomato paste and more sweet corn for distribution to schools. Purchases of canned vegetables this marketing season for donation to schools and needy persons now total 7.3 million cases (basis 24/303's), compared with 2.9 million last year.

Frozen Vegetables

Pack Was Up Slightly--The total pack of frozen vegetables in 1968 probably was 1 or 2 percent larger than in 1967. Early reports showed that output of frozen green beans was 13 percent

smaller than the record of a year earlier, and pack of baby lima beans was down slightly. Output of all other leading vegetables was larger. The record pack of cut sweet corn was up 5 percent, and pack of green peas was up 2 percent. Frozen fardhook lima bean output was 6 percent larger than in 1967. Reports of tonnage processed and stock levels pointed to moderate increases in packs of broccoli, cauliflower, and spinach. Packs of asparagus, brussels sprouts, and carrots were relatively large.

Although disappearance of most frozen vegetables so far has been the same or larger than a year earlier, remaining stocks are at record levels. Cold storage holdings on January 1 amounted to 1.48 billion pounds, 8 percent larger than a year earlier. Snap bean supplies were smaller. Stocks of all other vegetables were up, with record holdings reported for most items (table 10).

The large frozen stocks plus abundant supplies of competing canned vegetables, indicate that prices for nearly all frozen vegetables will continue under considerable downward pressure the next 4 to 5 months. Although disappearance may continue to gain, carryover stocks will be much above year-earlier levels.

Production Planning for 1969--Most of the acreage to be planted to processing vegetables in 1969 will be contracted during the next few months. Considering current large supplies, lower markets, and prospects for record carryover stocks, canners and freezers likely will reduce output this year.

As an information service intended to help growers and processors evaluate supply and acreage needs, the USDA issues acreage-marketing guides for processing vegetables. The guides furnish marketing data for leading vegetables and recommend acreages needed to obtain adequate supplies. Guides for 1969 crops will be announced in February. Free copies will be available from the Marketing Information Division, Consumer and Marketing Service, USDA, Washington, D.C. 20250.

POTATOES

Supplies Smaller and Prices
Higher Than Year Ago

Primarily because of smaller output last fall, all areas have fewer potatoes for marketing into midspring than a year ago, and average prices are higher. However, the situation varies by area because of differences in market demands, movement to date, and prospective disappearance.

Prices are up sharply in the West where disappearance so far is above last season's high rate. The heavy use is due to more food processing, since fresh shipments are down considerably. Remaining supplies are substantially smaller than last winter. January 1 storage holdings were down 11 percent, with reductions reported in most major States (table 2).

The strong market in the West has bolstered market demand for russets in other areas. But demand for other varieties appears to be lagging. As a result, in the Midwest (which grows some russets but many round reds and whites),

disappearance is down slightly, and total remaining supplies are about the same as a year ago. Stocks are relatively large in the Red River Valley. Prices there have averaged only a little above the depressed levels of last winter. Grower prices in most other Midwestern States are up at least a tenth.

Disappearance of storage potatoes in the East has been off a shade from last season, perhaps in part due to larger imports from Canada. Nevertheless, the area's stocks on January 1 were 7 percent smaller than in 1968, and prices to growers are averaging substantially above last winter's low levels.

For the next several months, continued strong markets appear likely in the West, where firm processing demand is expected. Although cold storage holdings of frozen potatoes are record large, sales reportedly are up, at prices slightly above year-earlier levels. And for dehydrated potatoes, trade reports indicate stocks are smaller than a year ago and movement is larger at much higher prices.

Table 2.--Potatoes: January 1 total stocks,
by areas, United States

Year	Eastern States	Central States	Western States	Total ^{1/}
	<u>Mil. cwt.</u>	<u>Mil. cwt.</u>	<u>Mil. cwt.</u>	<u>Mil. cwt.</u>
1963-67 average	41.3	24.6	49.2	115.2
1963	45.0	26.0	44.7	115.8
1964	41.5	25.0	48.5	115.0
1965	39.4	19.7	35.0	94.2
1966	38.2	27.4	57.9	123.5
1967	42.3	25.0	60.1	127.4
1968	43.6	28.0	67.7	139.4
1969	40.8	28.0	60.1	128.8

^{1/} May not add to total due to rounding.

Markets in the Midwest and East likely will show less strength into mid-spring. Disappearance during coming months will be under that of a year earlier when sizable quantities moved to starch or livestock feed in March and April under a USDA Section 32 diversion program. Thus, storage supplies for late season marketing probably will be relatively large.

Although storage supplies will be an important price factor into late spring, the market will gradually respond to prospects for new-crop output. First reports suggest that this year's early production will be moderate. Indicated winter production, at 4 million hundredweight, is only 3 percent above last year's small volume. Tonnage in Florida should be about the same as in 1968, but California expects more potatoes due to better yields. Despite the larger total crop, late season marketings may be down from last year if California growers harvest their crop faster in response to much higher prices.

Growers of potatoes for early spring harvest have reported plans for 5 percent fewer acres than in 1968. With normal abandonment and average yields, production would be down substantially from last year's record.

Total acreage for late spring harvest will be up from last year if growers follow their reported intentions. California growers intend to plant 9 percent more acres, and growers in Arizona plan an increase of about a fifth. But prospective acreage is the same or smaller than 1968 in all other late-spring crop States. Average yields on the intended acreage would result in a production moderately larger than in 1968, but materially smaller than the 1963-67 average.

Highlights of 1968

Production and Price

Responding to low returns for recent crops, potato growers in many States planted fewer acres in 1968. Except for dry weather in a few areas, growing and harvest conditions generally

were favorable for potatoes last year. The U.S. average yield, at 213 hundredweight, was up slightly from a year earlier to a record high. With acreage down, however, production in 1968--at 293 million hundredweight--was 4 percent smaller than in 1967.

Production followed an up and down pattern all year. Growers in California and Florida had less acreage for winter harvest; yields were lower and output was about a fifth smaller than in 1967. In marked contrast, more acres and better yields resulted in an early-spring crop that was 71 percent above the low level of 1967. Production during the late spring was substantially smaller than a year earlier. The decline was primarily due to sharp acreage reductions in California where growers experienced marketing problems the year before, and in Alabama where growers have had production problems during the last few years.

Although early-summer crop yields were high, acreage was down a little, and output was 2 percent smaller than in 1967. Production during the late summer was above a year earlier as larger crops in the West more than offset declines in other regions. Yields in western areas were much above those in 1967 when high temperatures reduced output.

The fall crop was 5 percent smaller than the 1967 record. Eastern tonnage was down moderately, reflecting a little less acreage and low yields due to dry weather. Growers in Maine harvested slightly fewer potatoes than a year earlier, while those in New York and Pennsylvania reported large decreases. Despite a tenth fewer acres, total production in the Midwest was only a little smaller than a year earlier. While output was down in many Midwestern States, high yields resulted in relatively large crops in the Red River Valley, South Dakota, and Nebraska. Among Western States, only Washington and Wyoming produced more fall potatoes than in 1967. Output was down 7 percent in Idaho and Oregon, and 16 percent in Colorado. Total production in the West was 6 percent smaller than in 1967 but nearly a fifth above average.

Potato prices during 1968 showed their usual sharp response to changing supplies. Prices were relatively low during the winter and early spring due to heavy storage supplies, and in August-September when marketing of early summer potatoes overlapped harvest of the large late-summer crop. But markets were strong

for the small late-spring crop, and prices averaged sharply above year-earlier levels. The U.S. price to growers during October-December averaged \$2.02 per hundredweight against a low \$1.70 a year earlier. Because of higher prices during the spring and fall, value of the 1968 potato crop was up 8 percent from the previous year to \$609 million.

SWEETPOTATOES

Production Down Slightly Last Year

Plantings of sweetpotatoes in 1968 declined slightly from a year earlier, acreage losses were larger, and yields averaged lower. So U.S. production, at 13.3 million hundredweight, was 3 percent smaller than in 1967 and a tenth below the 1962-66 average.

Only a few of the leading States had larger crops than in 1967. Louisiana's output, which accounted for nearly a third of U.S. production, was up 3 percent, with more acres offsetting lower yields. In California, growers had only a few more acres than in 1967; with excellent weather, yields were much higher and the State's tonnage was up materially. In Texas, both acreage and yields were above year-earlier levels; production was up 19 percent. Production was about the same or smaller than 1967 in all other major States. Large reductions occurred in Mississippi and North Carolina because of less acreage, and in Georgia because of lower yields. Production in the Middle Atlantic States continued to trend down,

declining 7 percent to an alltime low. The area's acreage was below a year earlier, and a dry summer affected yields.

Market Strong

Because of the small supply, markets for sweetpotatoes have been strong this season, and prices have been record high. U.S. average prices to growers during the peak marketing months of October-December 1968 averaged \$5.20 per hundredweight, compared with a high \$4.25 during the same period of 1967.

Shipment and unload data indicate that the quantity of sweetpotatoes marketed through mid-January 1969 was down moderately from a year earlier. And trade reports suggest that the volume used for canning and freezing also was smaller. Thus, supplies remaining for sale this winter, and spring may be close to those of a year earlier. However, such a supply would be substantially below average. Markets are expected to continue strong into summer. Prices likely will show a seasonal increase and average close to the record prices of a year earlier.

DRY EDIBLE BEANS

Production Up Substantially in 1968

Growers planted about 1.5 million acres to dry edible beans in 1968, many more than a year earlier when bad spring weather restricted field work. However, average yields in many States were low due to excessive rainfall during the growing or harvest seasons. At 17.7

million hundredweight, U.S. production was 17 percent larger than the short crop in 1967 but 3 percent below the 1962-66 average.

Among principal States, production in New York was 12 percent smaller than both 1967 and the 5-year average. Although above a year earlier, output also was below average in Michigan, Montana,

Wyoming, Idaho, and Washington. California, Colorado, and Nebraska were the only leading States where dry bean production in 1968 was larger than both 1967 and the recent 5-year average.

Total Supply Moderately Below Average

With both carryover and production below average, total supplies of dry edible beans for the 1968/69 marketing season were up only about 5 percent from the tight supplies of last season. Supplies of white beans as a group were up slightly, due to more pea beans. Production of that class, at 6.0 million hundredweight, was a fourth larger than the short crop in 1968. The indicated pea bean supply was, however, materially below average. Supplies of small white beans were about the same as a year earlier, while supplies of great northern beans were down sharply to the lowest level in more than a decade.

Production of colored beans totaled 7.4 million hundredweight--16 percent more than in 1967. Because of a large crop in Colorado, supplies of pintos were about a tenth above last season's and materially above average. Pink bean supplies also were relatively large, reflecting a sharp increase in output in Idaho. Production of small red beans was up about a fourth over 1967, but still small. Red kidney bean output was only slightly larger than 1967's small crop. Since carryover stocks were nominal, supplies of red kidneys are the smallest since the late 1950's. Mainly because of increased production in California, supplies of large lima and baby lima beans were the largest in several years. Blackeye bean supplies were up almost a fifth this season as increased output more than offset smaller stocks.

Increased Disappearance Likely

Movement of dry beans in domestic and foreign channels is expected to be larger this season than last. Domestic use probably will be up moderately with commercial sales supplemented by relatively large USDA donations. Under a Section

32 program, 44 million pounds of beans had been purchased through mid-January for distribution to needy families. Also, the USDA has invited offers for an additional 6.4 million pounds to be purchased in February.

Foreign demand for U.S. dry beans is expected to be relatively strong. Due to 1967's reduced output, inventories probably dropped last season in foreign countries which normally use substantial quantities of U.S. beans. In addition, 1968 production in a number of consuming and competing foreign countries was below a year earlier. Output in Western Europe, a leading outlet, was down moderately because of poor growing conditions. Adverse weather also reduced production in Chile and Yugoslavia, both of which normally sell important quantities of beans in the European market.

U.S. export trade during 1968/69 may be hampered somewhat by reduced quality and relatively high prices for the classes of white beans preferred by foreign buyers. Nevertheless, U.S. exports are running heavier than a year earlier, and likely will total much above last season's small volume.

U.S. prices paid to growers averaged \$7.90 per hundredweight during September-December this season, substantially under the near record \$9.02 of a year earlier but close to a tenth above average prices for those months. The average price level reflected a wide range of market conditions. Markets have been strong for pea beans, small whites, great northern beans, and red kidney beans; prices for all have stayed well above average. Prices for pintos and large limas also are above average, but have been declining in recent weeks. With supplies large relative to market needs, prices for baby limas have been the lowest since 1964.

Trade reports suggest that winter markets are steady for most leading classes, but that prices for pintos, large and baby limas, blackeye and pink beans are under pressure because of large supplies. However, in view of the below average supplies of many varieties, sizable USDA

Table 3.--Beans, dry edible: Production by commercial classes,
average 1962-66 and annual 1964-68

Class	Average 1962-66	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968 1/
	1,000 cwt.	1,000 cwt.	1,000 cwt.	1,000 cwt.	1,000 cwt.	1,000 cwt.
White:						
Pea, navy	6,779	6,801	5,480	7,290	4,787	5,964
Great northern	1,732	1,663	1,432	1,949	1,500	1,275
Small white 2/	582	514	578	670	473	498
White marrow	3/22	22	26	4/	4/	4/
Yelloweye	56	26	32	56	42	40
Total, white	9,171	9,026	7,548	9,965	6,802	7,777
Colored:						
Pink	374	353	410	450	488	679
Pinto	4,282	3,666	4,523	4,671	4,039	4,728
Red kidney	1,580	1,637	1,362	1,633	1,158	1,174
Small red	471	359	397	636	266	335
Cranberry	113	100	132	149	137	161
Black turtle soup	229	267	192	295	321	339
Total, colored	7,049	6,382	7,016	7,834	6,409	7,416
Lima:						
Large	752	678	755	597	774	814
Baby	377	275	211	340	280	589
Total, lima	1,129	953	966	937	1,054	1,403
Other						
Blackeye	745	788	668	851	565	781
Garbanzo	62	42	87	92	88	58
Other 5/	192	184	172	283	259	282
Total, other	999	1,014	927	1,226	912	1,121
United States	18,348	17,375	16,457	19,962	15,177	17,717

1/ Preliminary.

2/ Include flat small white.

3/ 1962-65 average.

4/ Included in "Other".

5/ Does not include beans grown for garden seed.

Data from Stat. Bul. No. 384 Field Crops and Crop Production, SRS, USDA.

purchases, and the price-support program, no major price change appear likely through the spring. Overall, average dry bean prices are expected to continue relatively high.

1968-Crop Price Supports

Support prices per hundredweight for 1968-crop beans (depending on area) are:

<u>Class</u>	<u>\$ per cwt.</u>
Pea and medium white	6.15-6.65
Great northern	6.71-7.21
Small white and flat	7.52
Pinto	5.97-6.57
Red kidney	8.51-8.70
Pink	7.32
Small red	7.37-7.47
Large lima	10.39
Baby lima	5.59

These support prices for U.S. No. 1 grade beans, cleaned and bagged, with all charges (except those for receiving and loading out) paid through the loan maturity date, April 30, 1969. Premiums and discounts for the 1968 program are the same as those for the 1967 program. Premiums for U.S. Choice Hand Picked and U.S. Extra No. 1 grade beans will be 10 cents per hundredweight for all except pea beans, on which the premium for U.S. Choice Hand Picked grade will be 25 cents per hundredweight. U.S. No. 2 grade beans will be discounted 25 cents per hundredweight,

The support program is being used more extensively than last season. Through December 31, 1968, there were 1.4 million hundredweight under loan compared with half a million a year earlier. About a third of the loans were in Michigan, and the rest in pinto growing areas of the West.

DRY FIELD PEAS

Supply Larger Than Last Season

Total supplies of dry peas were a little larger this season than last as increased output more than offset smaller carryover stocks. Supplies of green and seed peas were larger than a year earlier, while supplies of yellow peas were smaller.

Plantings of dry field peas in 1968 totaled 255,000 acres--up 4 percent from the year before. Although fewer acres were lost than in 1967, yields were reduced by wet weather during the harvest season. The average output per acre of 1,526 pounds were the lowest since the early 1960's. Production in 1968, at 3.7 million hundredweight, was 3 percent larger than in 1967 but materially below the 5-year average. The output of smooth green peas and wrinkled peas (mainly for seed) was up moderately. But production of yellow peas was down about a tenth from 1967.

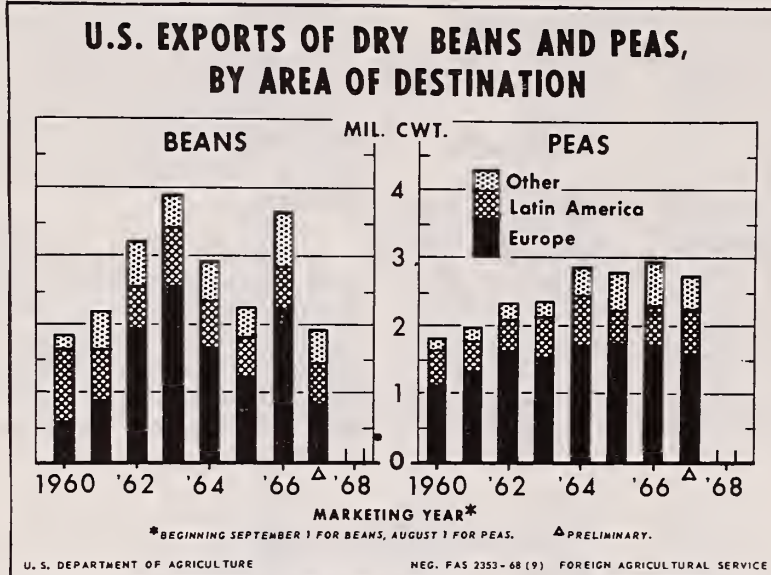
Market Situation and Prospects

Prices for dry peas were relatively low as the 1968/69 marketing season got underway, but increased appreciably during the fall. In December 1968, prices to growers averaged \$4.88 per hundredweight, nearly a tenth above a year earlier and highest for the month since 1958. Although markets were strongest for the small supplies of yellow peas, prices for green varieties also were substantially above those of a year earlier.

Better foreign demand apparently was mainly responsible for the general market strength. Production in Western Europe was down in 1968. So U.S. exports to that region, and in total, are running well above those of a year earlier. As a result, remaining U.S. stocks probably are materially below those of a year ago.

Foreign demand will have its usual important effect on U.S. prices this winter and spring. If that demand

stays near current levels, and with supplies smaller, continued relatively high prices seem likely.



The Vegetable Situation is published February, April, July, and October.

Table 4.--Vegetables and melons for fresh market: Commercial acreage, production, and season average price per hundredweight for principal crops, average 1962-66, annual 1967 and 1968 ^{1/}

Crop	Harvest acreage			Production			Price per hundredweight		
	Average	1967	1968	Average	1967	1968	Average	1967	1968
	1962-66			1962-66			1962-66		
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 cwt.	1,000 cwt.	1,000 cwt.	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars
Artichokes ^{2/}	8.6	9.6	9.6	560	730	576	9.44	8.87	10.02
Asparagus	34.7	31.0	30.8	990	822	918	16.66	21.08	21.89
Beans, lima	13.4	10.9	10.5	335	288	256	9.96	11.71	11.88
Beans, snap	103.0	98.2	96.0	3,949	3,797	3,582	10.39	11.52	12.41
Beets	3.0	2.8	1.8	362	294	241	4.45	4.09	5.22
Broccoli ^{2/}	38.7	43.4	43.0	2,345	2,782	2,991	8.21	8.88	9.00
Brussels sprouts ^{2/}	6.3	6.6	6.8	713	685	722	10.97	11.48	11.82
Cabbage ^{3/}	105.2	101.2	95.9	18,671	19,552	19,179	2.99	2.80	3.14
Cantaloups	117.6	108.7	118.4	12,276	12,552	13,624	5.20	6.25	5.78
Carrots ^{2/}	83.5	81.3	72.0	17,202	17,724	18,778	3.45	4.21	4.32
Cauliflower ^{2/}	26.4	26.0	26.8	2,531	2,428	2,690	7.91	8.89	9.30
Celery ^{2/}	31.0	33.8	33.6	14,286	15,335	15,682	4.44	4.75	4.68
Corn, sweet	201.3	190.9	182.1	12,838	13,147	12,283	4.38	4.84	5.22
Cucumbers	50.7	50.7	55.8	4,748	4,980	4,973	5.92	6.37	7.43
Eggplant	3.8	3.8	3.3	549	575	473	6.11	6.54	9.52
Escarole	9.3	9.4	8.1	1,067	1,122	1,106	6.03	6.21	7.61
Garlic ^{2/}	3.9	4.4	6.4	420	506	800	9.18	10.12	9.36
Honey dews	9.4	11.3	10.3	1,321	1,577	1,379	5.64	5.82	6.74
Kale ^{2/}	1.4	1.1	1.0	87	72	70	6.67	8.69	8.60
Lettuce	211.6	221.3	222.3	39,799	42,754	44,584	4.58	5.00	4.56
Onions ^{2/}	96.6	103.6	106.4	26,072	28,819	29,164	3.44	3.95	3.81
Peas, green	3.9	1.8	2.2	161	68	67	11.15	12.56	15.66
Peppers, green ^{2/}	44.9	47.3	51.8	3,936	4,351	4,829	9.26	10.60	10.65
Shallots	.9	1.0	1.0	26	32	37	9.89	12.31	12.00
Spinach	18.3	16.2	13.7	1,033	885	793	7.83	9.80	10.35
Tomatoes	155.0	148.7	145.0	20,548	20,640	19,776	8.58	9.52	11.70
Watermelons	284.8	272.8	286.6	29,258	27,735	27,701	1.62	2.10	1.88
Total ^{5/}	1,667.1	1,637.6	1,641.0	216,076	224,252	227,274			

^{1/} Includes Alaska and Hawaii.

^{2/} Includes some quantities used for processing.

^{3/} Price computed from value and production less not marketed.

^{4/} Includes Casabas, Persians, and other muskmelons.

^{5/} May not add to total due to rounding.

Vegetables - Fresh Market, annual summary, SRS, USDA.

Table 5.--Vegetables, fresh: Representative wholesale prices (l.c.l. sales) at New York and Chicago for stock of generally good quality and condition (U.S. No. 1 when available) indicated periods, 1967, 1968, and 1969

Market and commodity	State of origin	Unit	Tuesday nearest mid-month					
			1967-68			1968-69		
			Nov. 14	Dec. 12	Jan. 16	Nov. 12	Dec. 17	Jan. 14
			Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.
<u>New York</u>								
Beans, snap, green, Harvesters	Florida	Bu. hamper and crt.	4.75	4.25	8.00	9.50	6.75	6.50
Broccoli, bunched	California	14's crt.	3.40	3.37½	3.75	3.75	4.25	3.75
Cabbage, domestic round type	Florida	1-3/4 bu. crt.	--	2.62½	3.12½	--	5.00	3.75
Cabbage, Danish type	New York	50-lb. sack	1.25	1.50	1.75	1.50	2.65	2.50
Carrots, topped, washed	California	48-1-lb. film bag, crt.	7.00	9.00	12.00	5.00	4.90	6.50
Celery, Pascal	Florida	2-4 doz. 16 in. crt.	--	3.75	4.50	--	--	3.75
Celery, Pascal	California	2-3 doz. 16 in. crt.	5.50	5.00	5.50	5.25	4.75	4.75
Corn, sweet, yellow	Florida	5 doz. crt.	3.12½	3.00	4.00	4.25	4.75	--
Cucumbers	Florida	Bu. bskt.	3.75	3.50	12.00	9.50	20.50	--
Lettuce, Iceberg type	Arizona	2 doz. ctn.	4.75	4.50	6.75	4.00	5.00	4.25
Onions, yellow, medium	New York	50 lb. sack	2.37½	2.25	2.80	2.30	2.25	2.25
Peppers, green, California Wonder	Florida	Bu. bskt.	7.25	6.00	5.00	6.50	5.25	7.25
Spinach, Savoy type	Texas	Bu. bskt.	--	2.87½	4.00	--	--	3.00
<u>Chicago</u>								
Beans, snap, green, Harvesters	Florida	Bu. hamper	4.50	4.50	5.35	9.00	6.50	6.15
Broccoli	California	14's ½ crt.	3.50	3.35	4.15	3.50	4.50	3.60
Cabbage, domestic round type	Texas	1-3/4 bu. crt.	--	3.10	2.65	3.75	3.85	4.00
Carrots, topped, washed	California	48-1-lb. film bag crt.	--	--	--	5.50	5.40	6.00
Cauliflower	California	Film wrapped 12's ctn.	4.25	3.60	--	4.00	4.00	3.65
Celery, Pascal type	California	2-3 doz. 16 in. crt.	5.00	5.25	4.75	4.75	4.25	4.50
Corn, sweet, yellow	Florida	5 doz. crt.	2.50	2.90	4.50	4.50	4.00	--
Cucumbers	Florida	Bu. bskt.	4.35	3.25	10.00	10.00	22.00	--
Lettuce, Iceberg type	Arizona	2 doz. heads, ctn.	3.00	3.85	6.20	4.15	3.60	3.60
Onions, yellow, large	Idaho	50 lb. sack	4.15	3.80	4.00	2.50	2.45	2.50
Onions, yellow, medium	Midwestern	50 lb. sack	2.50	2.35	2.55	2.10	2.05	2.00
Peppers, green, California Wonder type, large	Florida	Bu. bskt.	7.00	8.25	4.75	7.00	4.50	6.50
Tomatoes, greenhouse	Midwestern	8 lb. bskt.	2.40	2.10	--	2.75	3.65	--

Weekly summary of terminal market prices, C&MS, USDA, Market News Report.

Table 6.--Vegetables, fresh: Average f.o.b. shipping point prices per hundredweight, United States, indicated periods, 1967 and 1968

Commodity	1967		1968		
	November	December	October	November	December 1-15
	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars
Beans, snap	11.60	10.60	11.60	19.00	15.50
Broccoli	11.00	12.40	11.30	11.40	11.80
Cabbage	2.38	3.24	3.21	3.39	4.23
Cantaloups	5.11	---	5.41	5.60	5.70
Carrots	8.33	9.72	4.55	5.32	5.54
Cauliflower	10.80	12.50	10.20	11.90	12.90
Celery	5.17	5.46	3.67	4.58	3.52
Corn, sweet	5.61	4.93	4.96	7.20	7.00
Cucumbers	4.90	5.03	4.91	15.60	27.10
Lettuce	5.43	5.55	4.81	5.30	6.05
Onions	4.18	4.19	3.58	3.48	3.26
Peppers, green	17.70	14.50	9.88	13.60	13.90
Spinach	8.62	12.30	8.87	8.76	10.40
Tomatoes	9.13	10.20	10.40	18.60	14.40

Agricultural Prices, SRS, USDA, issued monthly.

Table 7.--Vegetables, commercial for fresh market: Index numbers (unadjusted) of prices received by farmers, as of 15th of the month, United States by months, averages 1935-39, 1947-49, 1950-54, and 1955 to date ^{1/}

(1910-14 = 100)													
Period	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Av.
1935-39	114	121	133	130	125	98	87	82	81	90	103	115	107
1947-49	288	305	310	308	277	215	207	196	193	204	241	246	249
1950-54	283	264	253	293	265	242	232	202	183	202	248	268	245
Year													
1955	251	273	260	272	254	220	206	210	226	219	245	230	239
1956	246	276	271	246	262	291	264	202	184	215	281	267	250
1957	241	237	238	271	285	281	269	233	200	213	217	246	244
1958	322	369	414	352	292	227	195	171	188	214	251	232	269
1959	294	300	292	301	270	223	227	211	244	265	277	304	267
1960	320	307	283	286	291	239	246	202	197	216	237	249	256
1961	241	240	247	307	270	292	261	209	211	212	247	239	248
1962	306	330	405	353	348	272	236	205	208	215	244	277	283
1963	330	308	265	270	253	286	274	210	202	227	294	303	268
1964	324	334	317	288	268	290	258	245	245	252	327	282	286
1965	259	278	327	344	392	332	277	252	253	273	290	285	297
1966	343	364	329	353	315	322	369	328	295	296	333	322	331
1967	331	321	318	359	332	394	359	279	264	285	323	344	326
1968 ^{2/}	425	418	424	445	394	328	325	296	299	301	376	388	368

^{1/} The index for commercial fresh market vegetables was revised, beginning January 1958, to reflect changes in the method of reporting prices. All prices now are reported on a f.o.b. basis.^{2/} Preliminary.

Agricultural Prices, SRS, USDA, issued monthly.

Table 8.--Vegetables for commercial processing: Acreage, production, and season average price per ton, average 1962-66, annual 1967 and 1968

Commodity	Harvested acreage			Production			Price per ton		
	Average 1962-66	1967	1968	Average 1962-66	1967	1968	Average 1962-66	1967	1968
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 tons	1,000 tons	1,000 tons	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.
Asparagus	105	98	95	129	111	116	273.48	331.92	351.69
Beans, lima 1/									
Canning	27	36	37	25	36	32	144.75	164.28	166.34
Freezing	57	61	71	69	80	82	174.03	183.47	202.83
Beans, snap									
Canning	162	208	207	370	487	487	97.11	98.82	98.96
Freezing	52	66	59	121	150	140	109.34	110.80	102.92
Beets	17	18	21	194	206	269	18.65	20.48	21.92
Cabbage for kraut	11	14	13	198	273	231	15.06	17.01	18.07
Corn, sweet 2/									
Canning	309	353	394	1,281	1,516	1,787	20.39	23.64	24.38
Freezing	93	118	127	426	586	691	23.40	28.50	28.70
Cucumber for pickles	111	155	144	454	596	551	66.67	91.19	92.85
Peas, green 1/									
Canning	275	298	287	326	363	354	94.48	111.28	109.13
Freezing	150	160	172	202	227	233	94.01	104.92	103.57
Spinach									
Canning	13	12	12	72	72	69	37.22	39.99	42.57
Freezing	12	15	13	67	85	87	40.55	41.02	40.89
Tomatoes	282	328	368	4,648	5,187	6,968	31.75	42.79	40.31
Total 3/	1,675	1,940	2,018	8,582	9,975	12,095			

1/ Production and price on a "shelled" basis. 2/ Corn in the husk. 3/ May not add to total due to rounding.

Vegetables - Processing, annual summary, SRS, USDA.

Table 9.--Canned Vegetables: Commercial pack and canners' seasonal supply, shipments to January 1, stocks January 1, and total seasonal shipments, selected commodities

Commodity and season	: : Carryover :	: : Pack :	: : Seasonal : supply :	: : Shipments : to : January 1 :	: : Stocks : January 1 :	: : Total : seasonal : shipments :
	: Million : cases : <u>24/303's</u>	: Million : cases : <u>24/303's</u>	: Million : cases : <u>24/303's</u>	: Million : cases : <u>24/303's</u>	: Million : cases : <u>24/303's</u>	: Million : cases : <u>24/303's</u>
Asparagus	:	:	:	:	:	:
1965-66	: 1.8	: 7.2	: 9.0	: 6.7	: 2.3	: 7.8
1966-67	: 1.2	: 7.9	: 9.1	: 6.4	: 2.7	: 7.5
1967-68	: 1.6	: 6.6	: 8.2	: 5.6	: 2.6	: 6.8
1968-69	: 1.4	: 6.9	: 8.3	: n.a.	: n.a.	: n.a.
Beans, lima	:	:	:	:	:	:
1965-66	: .1	: 3.0	: 3.1	: <u>1/1.2</u>	: <u>2/1.9</u>	: 3.0
1966-67	: .1	: 3.5	: 3.6	: <u>1/1.0</u>	: <u>2/2.6</u>	: 3.3
1967-68	: .3	: 4.0	: 4.3	: <u>1/.9</u>	: <u>2/3.4</u>	: 3.3
1968-69	: 1.0	: 4.0	: 5.0	: <u>1/1.3</u>	: <u>2/3.7</u>	: n.a.
Beans, snap	:	:	:	:	:	:
1965-66	: 4.1	: 45.6	: 49.7	: 22.2	: 25.7	: 41.9
1966-67	: 7.2	: 40.5	: 47.7	: 24.7	: 21.8	: 43.8
1967-68	: 4.6	: 53.2	: 57.8	: 24.6	: 31.3	: 46.4
1968-69	: 11.4	: <u>3/51.1</u>	: <u>3/62.5</u>	: n.a.	: n.a.	: n.a.
Corn, sweet	:	:	:	:	:	:
1965-66	: 3.0	: 39.1	: 42.1	: 21.8	: 20.3	: 40.9
1966-67	: 1.2	: 45.5	: 46.7	: 24.5	: 22.2	: 45.4
1967-68	: 1.3	: 49.3	: 50.6	: 23.1	: 27.5	: 46.3
1968-69	: 4.3	: 59.3	: 63.6	: n.a.	: n.a.	: n.a.
Peas, green	:	:	:	:	:	:
1965-66	: 3.0	: 37.6	: 40.6	: 21.6	: 19.0	: 34.9
1966-67	: 5.7	: 31.9	: 37.6	: 21.3	: 16.3	: 33.7
1967-68	: 3.9	: 37.7	: 41.6	: 20.9	: 20.7	: 35.0
1968-69	: 6.6	: 36.2	: 42.8	: n.a.	: n.a.	: n.a.
Tomatoes	:	:	:	:	:	:
1965-66	: 5.1	: 36.0	: 41.1	: 20.9	: 20.2	: 35.7
1966-67	: 6.3	: 32.7	: 39.0	: 21.7	: 17.3	: 35.1
1967-68	: 3.7	: 40.0	: 43.7	: 23.1	: 20.6	: 35.1
1968-69	: 7.6	: 48.8*	: 56.4	: n.a.	: n.a.	: n.a.
Tomato juice	:	:	:	:	:	:
1965-66	: 10.0	: 40.0	: 50.0	: 22.1	: 27.9	: 41.6
1966-67	: 8.4	: 38.9	: 47.3	: 21.2	: 26.1	: 40.4
1967-68	: 6.9	: 42.8	: 49.7	: 19.4	: 30.3	: 41.2
1968-69	: 8.5	: 42.8*	: 51.3	: n.a.	: n.a.	: n.a.
Tomato catsup	:	:	:	:	:	:
1965-66	: 8.2	: 34.1	: 42.3	: 18.1	: 24.2	: 35.1
1966-67	: 7.2	: 35.3	: 42.5	: 18.7	: 23.8	: 33.8
1967-68	: 8.7	: 37.8	: 46.5	: 19.3	: 27.2	: 35.6
1968-69	: 10.9	: 43.9*	: 54.8	: n.a.	: n.a.	: n.a.
Chili sauce	:	:	:	:	:	:
1965-66	: .3	: 1.5	: 1.8	: .7	: 1.1	: 1.6
1966-67	: .2	: 2.1	: 2.3	: 1.0	: 1.3	: 1.8
1967-68	: .5	: 1.6	: 2.1	: .8	: 1.3	: 1.7
1968-69	: .4	: 2.2*	: 2.6	: n.a.	: n.a.	: n.a.

n.a. - not available. * - estimated.

1/ Shipments to November.2/ November 1 stocks.3/ Does not include late fall pack in Florida and Texas.

National Canners Association.

Table 10.--Vegetables, frozen: Cold Storage holdings and net change, September 1, to December 31

Commodity	December 31 stocks			September 1-December 31 net change		
	1966	1967	1968 1/	1966	1967	1968 1/
	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds
Asparagus	19	18	19	-8	-10	-11
Beans, lima:						
Fordhook	43	46	55	+18	+19	+20
Baby	67	76	81	+33	+47	+36
Total	110	122	136	+51	+66	+56
Beans, snap:						
Regular cut	94	125	124	-17	-4	-18
French style	43	49	48	-4	-2	-4
Total	137	174	172	-21	-6	-22
Broccoli	57	64	71	+24	+14	+1
Brussels sprouts	38	35	46	+25	+18	+29
Carrots	74	77	91	+43	+42	+53
Cauliflower	33	28	37	+17	+15	+22
Corn, sweet	221	230	282	+116	+91	+134
Mixed vegetables	37	36	41	+17	+12	+8
Peas, green	221	267	279	-129	-122	-141
Peas and carrots, mixed	16	17	18	+6	+3	+4
Spinach	53	61	68	-18	-18	-25
All other frozen vegetables	188	224	216	+44	+41	+17
Total 2/	1,204	1,355	1,475	+166	+146	+125
Potato Products	410	387	407	+183	+159	+203

1/ Preliminary.

2/ May not add to total due to rounding.

Cold Storage Report, SRS, USDA, issued monthly.

Table 11.--Potatoes, Irish: Acreage, yield per acre, and production, average 1962-66, annual 1967 and 1968

Seasonal group	Harvested acreage			Yield per acre			Production		
	Average	1967	1968	Average	1967	1968	Average	1967	1968
	1962-66		1/	1962-66		1/	1962-66		1/
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	Cwt.	Cwt.	Cwt.	1,000 cwt.	1,000 cwt.	1,000 cwt.
Winter	21.0	24.7	21.9	194	198	177	4,092	4,894	3,885
Spring									
Early	30.2	28.0	33.1	150	105	152	4,525	2,940	5,019
Late	101.6	103.4	83.4	224	230	245	22,769	23,734	20,520
Summer									
Early	83.8	87.3	83.3	151	160	165	12,662	13,980	13,728
Late	132.7	125.9	125.6	215	227	241	28,544	28,640	30,268
Fall									
8 Eastern	274.6	285.1	274.7	239	236	233	65,690	67,220	64,034
9 Central	304.9	323.0	291.0	152	153	167	46,474	49,392	48,566
9 Western	409.1	480.5	464.1	219	239	231	90,267	114,612	107,418
Total, fall	988.6	1,088.6	1,029.8	204	212	214	202,431	231,224	220,018
United States	1,357.9	1,457.9	1,377.1	202	209	213	275,023	305,412	293,438

1/ Preliminary.

Crop Production, annual summary, SRS, USDA.

Table 12.--Sweetpotatoes: Acreage, yield per acre, and production, average 1962-66, annual 1967, and 1968

Group and State	Harvested acreage			Yield per acre			Production		
	Average	1967	1968	Average	1967	1968	Average	1967	1968
	1962-66		1/	1962-66		1/	1962-66		1/
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	Cwt.	Cwt.	Cwt.	1,000 cwt.	1,000 cwt.	1,000 cwt.
Central Atlantic 2/	29.8	22.9	21.0	117	117	119	3,477	2,686	2,493
Lower Atlantic 3/	35.0	29.8	28.0	94	105	100	3,277	3,115	2,797
Central 4/	93.8	85.9	87.8	75	83	81	6,989	7,097	7,148
California	8.8	8.0	8.2	93	95	105	817	760	861
United States	170.0	146.6	145.0	87	93	92	14,733	13,658	13,299

1/ Preliminary.

2/ New Jersey, Maryland, and Virginia.

3/ North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia.

4/ Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi, Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, Texas, New Mexico, and Kansas.

Crop Production, annual summary, SRS, USDA.

Table 13.--Potatoes: Prices f.o.b. shipping points, per hundredweight, U.S. No. 1 grade or better, indicated periods, 1967, 1968 and 1969

Shipping point and variety	1967-68			1968-69		
	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.
	11	16	13	16	14	18
	<u>Dol.</u>	<u>Dol.</u>	<u>Dol.</u>	<u>Dol.</u>	<u>Dol.</u>	<u>Dol.</u>
Maine						
Round whites	1.72	1.44	1.44	2.00	1.88	1.90
Pennsylvania						
Round whites	2.10	1.90	1.80	2.50	2.36	2.40
Long Island, New York						
Round whites	2.30	2.04	1.92	2.78	2.42	2.44
New York, Upstate						
Katahdin	2.44	2.30	2.12	2.68	2.40	2.56
Michigan						
Round whites	2.18	2.10	1.88	2.32	2.38	2.40
Washington						
Russets	2.61	2.42	2.42	3.70	3.75	3.99
Colorado						
Reds	2.20	2.00	1.90	2.25	2.18	2.45
Idaho						
Russets 2" or 4 oz. min.	3.04	2.72	2.72	4.08	4.04	4.70
Oregon						
Russets	2.62	2.69	2.72	3.88	3.80	--

F.o.b. prices are simple averages of the range of daily prices for the week ended on indicated date. Compiled from Market News Service reports.

Table 14.--Potatoes: U.S. average price received by farmers, per hundredweight, indicated periods, 1967 and 1968

Item	1967			1968		
	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
	<u>Dol.</u>	<u>Dol.</u>	<u>Dol.</u>	<u>Dol.</u>	<u>Dol.</u>	<u>Dol.</u>
U.S. farm price	1.71	1.72	1.67	2.04	1.98	2.04
Parity price	2.86	2.85	2.86	2.91	2.92	2.92
	<u>Pct.</u>	<u>Pct.</u>	<u>Pct.</u>	<u>Pct.</u>	<u>Pct.</u>	<u>Pct.</u>
Price as percent of parity	60	60	58	70	68	70

Agricultural Prices, SRS, USDA, issued monthly.

Table 15.--Sweetpotatoes: Price f.o.b. shipping points and wholesale price at New York and Chicago, indicated periods, 1967, 1968, and 1969

[illegible]

F.o.b. prices are simple averages of the range of daily prices, compiled from Market News Service reports. The market prices are representative prices for Tuesday of each week and are submitted by the Market News Service representative at each market.

Table 16.--United States average prices received by farmers per hundredweight for important field crops, indicated periods, 1967 and 1968

Commodity	Average		1967	1968		
	Jan. 1910- Dec. 1914	Jan. 1957- Dec. 1959	Dec. 15	Oct. 15	Nov. 15	Dec. 15
	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.
Potatoes	1.13	1.71	1.67	2.04	1.98	2.04
Sweetpotatoes	1.61	4.30	5.50	4.34	4.92	6.35
Beans, dry edible	3.39	7.04	9.41	7.53	8.04	8.46
Peas, dry field	--	4.04	4.48	4.66	4.63	4.88

Agricultural Prices, SRS, USDA, issued monthly.

Table 17.--Beans, dry edible: Acreage, yield per acre, and production, average 1962-66, annual 1967 and 1968 1/

States and classes	Harvested acreage			Yield per acre			Production 2/		
	Average : 1962-66 :	1967 :	1968 :	Average : 1962-66 :	1967 :	1968 :	Average : 1962-66 :	1967 :	1968 :
	acres	acres	acres	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.
Michigan	611	503	624	1,242	1,060	1,060	7,556	5,332	6,614
New York	96	73	86	1,156	1,510	1,130	1,104	1,102	972
Northwest 3/	294	243	283	1,589	1,662	1,596	4,671	4,038	4,518
Southwest 4/	225	203	246	899	1,024	928	2,023	2,079	2,283
California									
Large lima	46	49	44	1,641	1,580	1,850	752	774	814
Baby lima	22	16	29	1,678	1,750	2,030	377	280	589
Other	146	124	141	1,349	1,268	1,367	1,969	1,572	1,927
Total California	214	189	214	1,450	1,389	1,556	3,099	2,626	3,330
United States	1,428	1,211	1,453	1,286	1,253	1,219	18,344	15,177	17,717

1/ Includes beans grown for seed.

2/ Cleaned basis.

3/ Nebraska, Montana, Idaho, Wyoming, Washington, and Minnesota and North Dakota beginning 1964.

4/ Kansas, Colorado, New Mexico, and Utah.

Crop Production, annual summary, SRS, USDA.

Table 18.--Beans, dry edible: Production in selected States, by major types, United States, 1968, and total by types 1967

Type	Mich- igan	Idaho	Wyom- ing	Ne- braska	Wash- ington	Colo- rado	New York	Cali- fornia	Other	Total
	1,000 cwt.	1,000 cwt.	1,000 cwt.	1,000 cwt.	1,000 cwt.	1,000 cwt.	1,000 cwt.	1,000 cwt.	1,000 cwt.	1,000 cwt.
Pea, navy	5,964	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	4,787
Great northern	---	240	106	913	---	---	---	16	1,275	1,500
Pinto	110	832	554	455	84	2,041	---	652	4,728	4,039
Red kidney	305	15	---	---	---	---	548	---	1,174	1,158
Small red	---	161	---	---	169	---	---	5	335	266
Large lima	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	814	---	774
Baby lima	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	589	---	280
Small white <u>2/</u>	---	---	---	---	28	---	---	470	---	473
Blackeye	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	781	---	565
Other	235	472	---	---	43	1	424	365	19	1,559
U.S. total	6,614	1,720	660	1,368	324	2,042	972	3,330	687	17,717
										15,177

1/ Includes Kansas, Minnesota, Montana, New Mexico, North Dakota, and Utah.

2/ Includes flat small white.

Crop Production, annual summary, SRS, USDA.

Table 19.--Peas, dry field: Acreage, yield per acre, and production, average 1962-66, annual 1967 and 1968 1/

State	Harvested acreage			Yield per acre			Production		
	Average	1967	1968	Average	1967	1968	Average	1967	1968
	1962-66			1962-66			1962-66		
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	1,000 cwt.	1,000 cwt.	1,000 cwt.
Minnesota	7	6	6	964	1,500	1,150	72	90	69
North Dakota	5	3	4	1,202	1,300	1,300	60	39	52
Idaho	109	100	98	1,682	1,530	1,610	1,830	1,530	1,578
Washington	147	116	129	1,644	1,600	1,500	2,376	1,856	1,935
Oregon	13	9	8	1,320	1,200	1,300	167	108	104
United States	283	234	245	1,612	1,548	1,526	4,528	3,623	3,738

1/ Includes peas grown for seed and cannery peas harvested dry.

Crop Production, annual summary, SRS, USDA.

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